

HOUSE BILL 810
By Cochran

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to the authorization and establishment of a
college of pharmacy at East Tennessee State
University.

WHEREAS, East Tennessee State University has proposed to establish a new four-year college of pharmacy to address a dramatically increasing demand for pharmacists in this state; and

WHEREAS, there is an acute lack of pharmacists in rural, underserved communities such as in the southern Appalachian region; and

WHEREAS, by the tenth year of operation the pharmacy school would add over one thousand jobs, two hundred seventy of which would be in the Tri-Cities region, and would contribute more than one hundred million dollars to Tennessee's economy, and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee State University does not request any state funding for the pharmacy school; and

WHEREAS, many pharmacists licensed in this state attend pharmacy schools outside this state because the educational opportunities are so limited at the present time; and

WHEREAS, a pharmacy school in the eastern portion of Tennessee would be a boon to all persons in the state; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The general assembly finds the need for an additional state supported pharmacy college in the state and hereby authorizes and establishes under the direction and control of the board of regents for the state university and community college system of Tennessee a college of pharmacy at East Tennessee State University.

SECTION 2. The board of regents for the state university and community college system of Tennessee is hereby authorized and directed to cause its chancellor and the president of East Tennessee State University to initiate planning, development and construction of such pharmacy college.

SECTION 3. It is the express intent of the general assembly that no pharmacy programs presently at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis be discontinued or diminished in any way by the establishment and operation of a pharmacy college at East Tennessee State University.

SECTION 4. It is further the intent of the general assembly that no state funds be provided for capital or operational expenses and that the pharmacy school rely upon carefully managed tuition and other such sources.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.